and (b) The Harkins and Brown bills introduced in the US Senate and the House of Representatives respectively, seek to prohibit imports into the US of products made wholly or in part with Child labour. The bills which are neither country specific nor product specific, are at present at the Committee stage. The proposed restrictions are not yet operational and hence the question of the restrictions affecting our exports has not arisen.

Action has been taken to improve the enforcement of our laws; voluntary action has been initiated particularly by the carpet industry to reduce child labour; amendments have been made in the Exim policy where necessary in the case of carpet exports to help in keeping a check on the use of child labour. Further, external publicity measures are being undertaken to counter disinformation regarding the prevailing child labour situation and to publicise the measures being taken to eliminate child labour.

अनुज्ञप्तियों के लिए अनुसूचित जातियों अनसूचित जातियों का आरक्षण

2356. श्री ब्रह्मदेव आनन्द पासवान : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के व्यक्तियों को अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर व्यापार करने हेतु अनुज्ञप्तियां प्राप्त करने के लिए आरक्षण दिया जाता है ;

(ख) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान कितने व्यक्तियों को व्यापार संबंधी अनुज्ञप्तियां प्रदान की गई हैं और अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के व्यक्तियों को कितने प्रतिशत व्यापारिक अनुज्ञप्तियां प्रदान की गई; और

(ग) यदि अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के व्यक्तियों को अभी तक व्यापार संबंधी आरक्षण प्रदान नहीं किया गया है तो क्या सरकार संविधान के अनुसार उन्हें ऐसा आरक्षण प्रदान करने का विचार रखती है, यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) से (ग) निर्यात तथा आयात नीति 1992-93 के अंतर्गत, सभी मदों के खुले रूप में आयात अथवा निर्यात की अनुमति है लेकिन कुछ मदें आयात तथा निर्यात की दो छोटी नकारात्मक सूचियों अथवा नीति के अन्य प्रावधानों के अनुसार विनियमित हैं। चूंकि आयात तथा निर्यात अधिकांशतः मुक्त हैं, इसलिए नीति में किसी खास वर्ग के व्यक्तियों के लिए किसी आरक्षण की आवश्यकता नहीं है।

INSTRUCTIONS/DIRECTIONS FOR SPEEDY REDRESSAL OF EXPORTERS PROBLEMS

2357. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the details regarding instructions/direction issued by Government inter-alia including speedy redressal of the exporters problems, punishment provided to erring Officers, etc. as finalised by Government on 18th November, 1993 and appeared in the Press on 20th November and telecast on Doordarshan on 18th November, 1993 ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The Government has decided that each level/functionary shall be held personally responsible for acts of commission or omission which have the effect of causing delay without any justification to exports or harassment to exporters and such acts shall be treated as a dereliction of duty within the meaning of the Conduct Rules and dealt with as such.

The concerned Ministries/Departments have been advised to issue suitable instructions accordingly.

OFFICER ORIENTED EXPORT PROMOTION CELL IN EACH MINISTRY

2358. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to establish an Officer-Oriented Export Promo-

tion Cell in each Ministry at the earliest ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to designate an office not below the rank of a Director as a one-man Export Promotion Desk/Cell in each Ministry/Department to look into and follow-up all complaints/grievances/problems/suggestions relating to exports.

COMMITTEE FOR MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION OF 15 POINT PROGRAMME

2359. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL ALIAS MEEM AFZAL : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any committee in Commerce Ministry for monitoring implementation of the 15 point programme for the welfare of the minorities ; and

(b) if so, what are the details with regards to such committee in the Ministry and the number of persons who have been provided with employment during the last three years under this programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

IMPORT OF NEWSPRINT

2360. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL ALIAS MEEM AFZAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state what is the value and weight of Newsprint imported from foreign countries during the period 1991-92 and 1992-93 and 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : The quantity and value of Newsprint imported during 1991-92, 1992-93 and April-September 93, the latest period for which such data are available during 1993-94, are given below :

	1991–92	1992–93	1993–94 April—(September)
Quantity ('000 M. Tons)	229	243	109
Value Rs. Crores	343	357	159
US$ Million	139	123	51

EXPORT OF WHEAT

2361. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision for export of wheat ;

(b) if so, what is the total super wheat that will be exported;

(c) what is the price on which this will be sold ; and

(d) what is the total wheat sold by FCI during October and November, 1993 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) Government has decided to allow export of superior variety of wheat i.e. Durum Wheat known as Sirohi, Sharbati subject to minimum export price of US $ 160 per M.T. and a quantitative ceiling of 3 lakh MTs during 1993-94.

(d) The export of superior variety of wheat is to be made from the open market and not from the Government stocks being held by the Food Corporation of India.